Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—When the necessary details are not yet settled, how can we commit ourselves to any particular rate?

The MEMBER.—When things are so indefinite, why should the raiyats be compelled to execute *mutchalikas* agreeing to pay a contribution of Rs. 60 per acre?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—Government are not aware that raiyats are being compelled.

The MEMBER.—Now that we have brought the matter to notice, will the matter be enquired into and the officers instructed not to subject the raiyats to such compulsion?

Mr. M. G. MEHKRI.—We will enquire about it.

Another MEMBER.—And if, as a result of the enquiries, Government feel that the rate agreed to by the raiyats in such circumstances, *viz.*, Rs. 60, is too high, will they reduce the rate?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—If the rate is excessive, they may apply for a reduction.

Inter-Village Communications in the Malnad.

Q.—76. **Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH** (Koppa—Rural).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of village panchayats in the malnad taluks of the State;

(*b*) the jamabandi of these panchayats during 1939-40;

(*c*) the arrears outstanding at the end of 1939-40; [Talukwar information to be furnished in respect of (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*)];

(*d*) whether they are aware that as a result of the houses in the malnad being far removed from one another and three-fourths of them being thatched houses, the income derived by the panchayats is not in proportion to their areas;

(*e*) whether it has come to their notice that owing to the existence of hills and dales in these parts, it is not possible to open roads out of the present income of the panchayats?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. H. V. Narayana Rao).**—

(*a*) to (*c*) *Vide* statement appended.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes; under the Inter-Village Road Scheme, the village panchayats are expected to contribute only a portion of the cost of the construction of roads and the Deputy Commissioners have been empowered to allow exemption to village panchayats which have not got sufficient money to pay for the purpose.

Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH.—Whose responsibility is it to collect the dues of the village panchayats?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Of the Revenue Department.

Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH.—Since when have they been discharging that responsibility?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—From 1939-40.

Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH.—In some taluks, 5 to 6 years' demand is still in arrear. Does it show that the department did not make any collections at all?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—The collections this year are better, as a result of circular instructions issued in the matter.

Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH.—If dues remain uncollected for many years together, will it not be very difficult for the raiyats to pay all the arrears in a lump on demand?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. Bikkali SITHARAMIAH.—In some panchayats, even small sums have not been collected. How can they go on with their work?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—If there are any such cases, we will try to find out why small sums were not collected.

Mr. Kadidal MANJAPPA.—Are not the heavy outstandings the reason why the panchayats are unable to pay any contribution towards the construction of roads?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—No.

Mr. Kadidal MANJAPPA.—Will those panchayats which cannot contribute towards the cost of construction of roads be exempted from payment?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—If special representations are made, the concerned authorities may consider them.

Mr. Kadidal MANJAPPA.—For laying out inter-village roads in the malnad, wherefrom will funds be provided?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—From the Inter-Village Road Fund.

Mr. Kadidal MANJAPPA.—What is the amount allotted for the purpose this year?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. T. SHADAKSHARAPPA.—At the time of collecting land revenue, cannot the panchayat dues also be collected, preference being given to collection of the latter?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—The suggestion has been noted.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.—Is there no order about writing off the panchayat dues with reference to the usual period of limitation?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—Demands which are more than 6 years old are barred by limitation.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Even demands not barred by limitation have been written off in special circumstances, such as, distress, etc.

Mr. K. CHENGALARAYA REDDY.—But is there no order on the point?

Mr. H. V. NARAYANA RAO.—The order is that no coercive processes should be resorted to for recovery of more than 6 years' dues.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—How much of the estimated cost should the village panchayats contribute towards the construction of inter-village roads?

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT and PUBLIC HEALTH (Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda).—No definite proportion has been fixed. They can pay according to their ability.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—Is there no definite order to the effect that panchayats should contribute one-half, the other half being provided from the Inter-Village Road Fund?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—No definite proportion is fixed.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—If so, can the panchayats spend the allotments made to them as they think best?

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA GOWDA.—Yes. And if the panchayats have money, they are called upon to pay. Otherwise, the entire expenditure on the opening of the roads will be met from the fund.

REPRESENTATIONS—*contd.*

No. 114.—Appointment of a Nurse for Chakavelu Village.

Mr. SUBBA REDDY (Bagepalli—Rural).

Mr. SUBBA REDDY represented that Chakavelu consisted of about 80 villages at distances of six to nine miles, and that it was very difficult for people to go to Chelur hospital which was 10 miles from Chakavelu and 15 miles from Rachanur village. There were no facilities at all for treating maternity cases. He therefore prayed that a nurse be appointed for Chakavelu village and given free quarters.

The MINISTER for LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda) stated that the question had been referred to the Senior Surgeon and added that if the local bodies concerned and the Red Cross Society would agree to contribute a share of cost on account of the pay of the midwife, the representation would be considered favourably.

No. 128.—Transfer of the civil jurisdiction of the Nelamangala Taluk from the Dodballapur Munsiff's court to Bangalore Second Munsiff's court.

Mr. S. T. MALLASETTAPPA (Nelamangala—Rural).

Mr. S. T. MALLASETTAPPA represented that the last boundary of the Nelamangala Taluk was 50 miles from the Munsiff's Court at Dodballpur. The litigants in the taluk going to the court at Dodballapur had to pass through Bangalore, and on every such occasion, they had to spend three long days at considerable cost to themselves in addition to undergoing a lot of bodily exertion. Many representations had already been made to transfer the said jurisdiction to Bangalore as in the past. To obviate the inconvenience experienced by the litigants, he prayed that the civil jurisdiction of Nelamangala Taluk